DEEPLY 25: BEYOND DANCE…
THE CELEBRATION BEGINS OCT. 17
In-Person and Virtual Fundraiser Features
Live Performances, Retrospective Video, More

IMAGES AVAILABLE HERE.
Deeply Rooted Dance Theater (DRDT), which diversifies the aesthetics of contemporary dance by uniting modern, classical, American, and African-American traditions in dance and storytelling, announces additional details for Deeply 25: Beyond Dance...The Celebration Begins. Launching the company’s 25th anniversary season, the fundraiser offers in-person and virtual opportunities to celebrate DRDT on Saturday, October 17 at 7 p.m. CDT at the Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport, Chicago.

Pamela Crutchfield is Lead Sponsor of the event.

Following welcoming remarks from DRDT leadership and sponsors, DRDT performs works from its repertoire live: “My Country Tis of Thee,” choreographed by Kevin Iega Jeff with music by Mahalia Jackson, an excerpt from I Am Deeply Rooted (2010); Rain, an excerpt from a work in progress choreographed by Nicole Clarke-Springer, with music by Peter Gabriel; When Men (2016), choreographed by Joshua L. Ishmon with narration by Charlie Chaplin and music by Paolo Nutini; Surrender (1997), choreographed by Jeff with music by Terence Trent D’Arby and Hans Zimmer; and Heaven (2004), choreographed by Jeff and Gary Abbott with music by Janice Pendarvis, Anthony Moten, and Raymond Jones reimagined by Sam Trump.

Between the performances, in-person and virtual audience members will see videos featuring comments from the Artistic Team—Artistic Director Nicole Clarke-Springer, Co-Founder/Associate Artistic Director Gary Abbott, Dance Education Director Tracey Franklin, Rehearsal Director Joshua L. Ishmon, and Co-Founder/Creative Director Kevin Iega Jeff, along with longtime company member Dominique Atwood—and a reflective, cinematic history of DRDT, including video highlights of company performances and interviews that illuminate the company’s founding and inspiration, its evolution to the present, and its plans for the future under new artistic leadership.
All premium ticket buyers, in person (beginning at $250) and virtual ($150), are invited to the post-performance Continuum, a dialogue with the Artistic Team. In-person premium tickets at higher levels ($500 and $1,000) also include preferred seating at DRDT’s spring 2021 performance.

A maximum of 50 people may purchase premium tickets to attend the fundraiser in person at the Athenaeum Theatre. Audience members, staff, and performers will wear masks at all times, and seating will provide at least six feet of distance between audience members. Sanitation protocols are in place, and sanitizer will be available.

Deeply 25: Beyond Dance…The Celebration Begins takes place Saturday, October 17 at 7 p.m. CDT
Virtual general admission is $25; virtual premium admission is $150, both available at deeplyrooteddancetheater.org.

Limited in-person attendance is available at the Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N. Southport Avenue, Chicago. In-person premium admission is $250, $500, and $1,000, available at athenaeumtheatre.org/deeply-25-beyond-dance-the-celebration-begins/.

All programming is subject to change.
Premiering in 1996, Deeply Rooted Dance Theater is rooted in traditions of modern, contemporary, and African dance, as well as storytelling, in universal themes that spark a visceral experience and ignite an emotional response in diverse audiences worldwide. Collaborating with nationally renowned choreographers across the spectrum of modern, ballet, and African dance, DRDT presents work that reflects eclectic voices in contemporary life.

Deeply Rooted programs are partially supported by the Reva and David Logan Foundation, MacArthur Funds for Arts and Culture at the Driehaus Foundation, the Arts Work Fund and Smart Growth program of the Chicago Community Trust, Allstate, the Alphawood Foundation Chicago, Chicago Park District’s Night Out in the Parks Program, CityArts grant from the City of Chicago’s Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events, the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, Ginger Farley Charitable Fund at The Chicago Community Foundation, the Martha Strutters Farley and Donald C. Farley, Jr. Family Foundation, the Field Foundation of Illinois, the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, Gilbert Fund, Irving Harris Foundation, Illinois Arts Council Agency, Illinois Humanities, the International Association of Blacks in Dance, the Joyce Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, the John G. Palfrey and Catherine A. Carter Family Fund, the University of Chicago's Accelerator Program, US Bank, and Deeply Rooted Family of Friends. Special thanks to the Auditorium Theatre, Ballet Chicago, the Chicago Community Trust, Chicago Dancemakers Forum, the Chicago Park District, Hyde Park School of Dance, the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts, Maywood Fine Arts Academy, and St. Benedict the African Church for their partnership and support.

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Photos top to bottom:
Archival photo of dancer Aaron Dugger. Photo by Jack Mitchell.
DRDT dancers (L-R) Pierre Clark, Ricky Davis and Nehemiah Spencer in When Men. Photo by Michelle Reid.
DRDT dancers (L–R): Rebekah Kuczma, Ricky Davis, Dominique Atwood, and Ahmad Hill in Heaven. Photo by Michelle Reid.